

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 40, 48, and 59 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 2, 7, 8, and 41-43 are amended, and new claims 66-68 are added. Claims 1-31, 33-39, 41-47, 49-58, 60-62, and 66-68 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 1, 2, 8-10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 33, 34, 36-38, 44-55, 57-59, and 62 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 8-10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 33, 34, 36-38, 44-55, 57-59, and 62 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,834,329 issued to Delapp. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 48 and 59 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicant respectfully submits that Delapp does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, “a first auxiliary link member disposed parallel to the lower link member at a first position deviated from first axes of the link hinge and the base hinge to connect the lower link member with the upper link member through the link hinge and transmit a rotary motion from the lower link member relative to the base member to the upper link member through the link hinge,” as recited in independent claim 1.

The Office Action asserts that Delapp’s bands 54 teach a “first auxiliary member.” This assertion is respectfully traversed. As shown in Figures 3 and 4, Delapp discloses a band 54 and an intermeshing gear segment 50. More specifically, col. 4, lines 15-17 of Delapp discloses, “The upper and lower arms 12 and 13 are locked together for rotation at the elbow hub 14 by intermeshing gear segments 50 (Figs. 4 and 5)...” Accordingly, intermeshing gear segment 50 is one of the components necessary for transmitting rotation. Delapp requires intermeshing gears 50 to transmit a rotary motion from the lower arm 12 relative to a turntable 9 to the upper arm 13 through the elbow hub 14.

Because other components such as intermeshing gear segments 50 apply a rotation, Delapp’s band 54 cannot teach transmitting a rotary motion from the lower link member relative to the base member to the upper link member through the link hinge.

Therefore, for at least these reason, independent claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the cited reference.

Claims 1, 2, 8-10, 12, 13, 15, and 16 depend from claim 1 and include the features of claim 1. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claims 1, 2, 8-10, 12, 13, 15, and 16 are patentably distinguishable from the cited reference

Applicant respectfully submits that Delapp does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, “a first auxiliary link member having one end rotatably coupled to the base member and another end rotatably coupled to the upper link member,” as recited in independent claims 36 and 62.

As discussed above, Delapp’s band 54 does not transmit a rotary motion from lower arm 12 relative to the turntable 9 to the upper arm 13 through the elbow hub 14. Instead, other components, such as intermeshing gear segments 50, are required for transmitting rotary motion. Therefore, for at least these reason, independent claims 36 and 62 are patentably distinguishable from the cited reference.

Claims 33, 34, 37, 38, 44-47, 49-55, 57, and 58 depend from claim 36 and include the features of claim 36. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claim 36 is patentably distinguishable from the cited reference.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 35, 39-43, 56, and 60 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 35, 39-43, 56, and 60 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Delapp. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted above, Delapp does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, “a first auxiliary link member having one end rotatably coupled to the base member and another end rotatably coupled to the upper link member,” as recited in claim 36.

In addition, claim 40 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 35, 39, 41-43, 56, and 60 depend from claim 36 and include all of the features of claim 36. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claims 35, 39, 41-43, 56, and 60 are also patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Rejection of Claims 3-7 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 3-7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Delapp in view of U.S. Patent 5,422,951 issued to Takahashi et al. (hereinafter referred to as “Takahashi”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Takahashi does not cure the deficiencies of Delapp.

Accordingly, Delapp and Takahashi, taken separately or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest, at least, "a first auxiliary link member disposed parallel to the lower link member at a first position deviated from first axes of the link hinge and the base hinge to connect the lower link member with the upper link member through the link hinge and transmit a rotary motion from the lower link member relative to the base member to the upper link member through the link hinge," as recited in claim 1.

Claims 3-7 depend from claim 1 and include the features of claim 1. Accordingly, claims 3-7 are patentably distinguishable from the cited references. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Objection to Claims 11, 14, 17-31, and 61

On page 12, the Office Action objects to claims 11, 14, 17-31, and 61 for being dependent upon a rejected base claim. It is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 36 are patentably distinguishable from the cited references. Because Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 36 are in condition for allowances, claims 11, 14, and 17-31 depend from claim 1 and claim 61 depends from claim 36, it is respectfully submitted that claims 11, 14, 17-31, and 61 are also in condition for allowance. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Summary

Claims 1-31, 33-39, 41-47, 49-58, 60-62, and 66-68 are pending and under consideration. It is respectfully submitted that none of the references taken alone or in combination disclose the present claimed invention.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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